**Amendments to the Specification**

At specification page 1, replace the title with the following replacement title:

~~Locking Ring~~ Secured Shaft-Hub-Joint

At specification page 1, before the paragraph beginning with "[t]his is a nationalization of," insert the following heading:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

At specification page 1, before the paragraph beginning with "[t]he present invention relates to," insert the following headings:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of Invention

At specification page 1, replace the paragraph beginning with "[t]he present invention relates to" with the following replacement paragraph:

The present invention relates to a locking ring ~~according to the preamble of main claim 1~~ for axially fixing a shaft part in a ring part. The shaft part has a peripheral groove and the ring part has an inner groove, and the locking ring engages each when in the fixed state.

At specification page 1, before the paragraph beginning with "[l]ocking rings of such type," insert the following heading:

2. Description of the Prior Art

At specification page 2, before the paragraph beginning with "[t]herefore the object of the present invention," insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

At specification page 2, replace the paragraph beginning with "[t]his objective is solved" with the following replacement paragraph:

This objective is solved by a locking ring having the characteristics ~~specified in the claim 1~~ described herein.

At specification page 3, before the paragraph beginning with "[t]he present invention and its embodiments," insert the following heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

At specification page 3, replace the paragraph beginning with "[t]he present locking ring" with the following replacement paragraph:

The present locking ring can have a polygonal material cross-section, such as triangular, ~~or~~ rectangular, or quadratic, or a circular, oval, or elliptical material cross-section, where it is particularly advantageous if the locking ring enters as evenly as possible over the periphery of the shaft part for being placed in the inner opening, once the shaft part is inserted into the ring part, in the groove of which the locking ring is inserted.

At specification page 4, before the paragraph beginning with "[a]n annular ring part is marked," insert the following heading and paragraph:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Further scope of applicability of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description given hereinafter. However, it should be understood that the detailed description and specific examples, while indicating preferred embodiments of the invention, are given by way of illustration only, since various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from this detailed description.

At specification page 5, replace the paragraph beginning with "[a]ccording to a preferred embodiment" with the following replacement paragraph:

According to a preferred embodiment, the locking ring 5 essentially comprises a base part 52 and lateral side parts 54, 55, that are arranged in it and that have a triangular shape together, where preferably the opposite free ends 57 and ~~58~~ 56 of the side parts 54, 55 are located with a gap between each other in the peripheral direction. The base part 52 is connected to the side part 54 using a preferably rounded corner area 53. Accordingly, the base part 52 is connected to the side part 55 using a preferably rounded corner area 51. The shape corresponds preferably to an equilateral triangle, where the end areas 56, 57 are arranged in the area of the third corner.

At specification page 5, replace the paragraph beginning with "Figure 1 illustrates" with the following replacement paragraph:

Figure 1 illustrates the mounted state of the present locking ring 5, in which at least the corner areas 51, 53 and the corner areas 56, 57 engage in the inner groove 21 of the ring part 1 and at least the middle areas of the base part ~~53~~ 52 and of the side parts 54 and 55 engage in the peripheral groove 41 of the shaft part 3 in order to interlock the ring part 1 and the shaft part 3, so that they are fixed to one another in the axial direction against radial movements.

At specification page 5, replace the paragraph beginning with "[f]irst, before the shaft part 3" with the following replacement paragraph:

First, before the shaft part 3 is inserted into the ring part 1 of the locking ring 5, the base part 52 and the side parts 54 and 55 of the ~~latter~~ locking ring 5 are pressed together preferably in a linear and spiral manner according to figure 2b so that its outer diameter Da is smaller than the inner diameter Di of the inner opening 2 of the ring part 1. Subsequently, the thus pressed locking ring 5 is pushed into the ring part 1 in the axial direction so far till it reaches the area of the inner groove 21. The locking ring 5 is then released, so that it snaps resiliently with its corner areas 51, 53 and the corner areas 56, 57 onto the base wall 22 of the inner groove 21. This state is illustrated in the figures 3a and 3b, where in figure 3b, the location of the locking ring 5 is marked by the cross-section II-II in the figure 3a.

At specification page 7, replace the paragraph beginning with "[i]n the following description" with the following replacement paragraph:

In the following description the locking ring has a triangular shape. However, even other forms, for example oval or elliptical or polygonal shapes are also feasible, whereby it depends on whether the part areas (preferably rounded corner areas)

of the locking ring rest against the base of the inner groove 21 of the ring part 1 and other partial areas (preferably areas between the corner areas) rest against the base of the inner groove 21 of the shaft part 3 in the mounted state of the locking ring. In the design forms of the locking ring that are particularly preferred the ~~said~~ resting points of the part areas are distributed as evenly as possible around the inner periphery of the inner groove 41 and/or of the peripheral groove 21.

At specification page 9, after the last line, insert the following paragraph:

The invention being thus described, it will be apparent that the same may be varied in many ways. Such variations are not to be regarded as a departure from the spirit and scope of the invention, and all such modifications as would be recognized by one skilled in the art are intended to be included within the scope of the following claims.

At specification page 10 (i.e., the first claims page), replace the heading with the following replacement heading:

~~Claims~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: